

Iowa State Commodity Advisory Council Meeting

The Iowa State Commodity Advisory Council met at the Crown Point Center in Johnston, Iowa on Friday, October 17, 2003. The meeting came to order at 9:00 a.m. with Dean Flaws introducing new council members and welcoming all in attendance. The processing companies then proceeded to make their presentations. The presenters and order were:

1. Gary Bornmueller representing Tyson
2. Gary Downey representing Smuckers & Pierre
3. Dave Horowitz representing East Side Entrees
4. Larry Hohenshell representing Quik-to-Fix
5. Malissa Marsden representing Schrieber Cheese
6. Joe DeAntoni representing Con Agra
7. Speed Herrig representing Cookies

Dean Flaws called the business meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. Council Members attending were: Edie Hambright, Nann Canfield, Connie White, Sharon Cue, Suzy Ketelsen, Kayla Constant, Marlene Minear, Denise Bridges, Stephanie Dross, Candy Anderson, Terri Denkman. Amy Lien was excused.

The first order of business was electing a chairman and secretary for the Council. After discussion, Stephanie Dross and Connie White were elected as Co-Chairmen. Denise Bridges was elected as Secretary, with Nann Canfield as Asst. Secretary.

Stephanie and Connie then proceeded to preside over the meeting. Minutes were read from February 20, 2003 and approved. Dean handed out information sheets for the Council to complete along with voucher and claim sheets. Dean handed out phone numbers and contacts for the Bureau of Food and Nutrition and council members.

It was decided to proceed with the meeting and not break for lunch.

Discussion Items:

1. Team Nutrition Workshop was added to the agenda.
2. Processed presentations were discussed.
3. Current processed commodity items were reviewed and discussed. The council feels the list is currently adequate. We would like to look at value pass-through processing with Mrs. Clarks items.
4. Council members received Tabatchnick samples during January. In addition to the pasta from Tabatchnick, the Council would like to look at Eastside and Aunt Vi's pasta items also.
5. Dean shared that the ICN Commodity Orders continue to increase. Currently approximately 75% of schools are using the internet. Fifty schools participated in the last training that was held in September. There will be another workshop in January.
6. Egg Mix-10 had to be cancelled from the 4B delivery. USDA decided not to purchase due to high prices.
7. Dean shared with everyone that all schools should be receiving an Emergency Readiness Plan Workbook. The new plan is available from NFSMI and the USDA and appears to be a new excellent resource for all schools.
8. ISFSA dates coming up are: Board Meeting on February 20, 2004 and the Annual State Meeting will be held June 28-30, 2004 in Des Moines. Dean requested to discuss item 14 "Commodity Daze" at this time. We will not be holding a Commodity Daze in May. The Daze info will be worked into the State Annual Conference with the vendors. There was discussion about marking vendors with a sign or flag on commodity items. The Council was asked to think about ways to accomplish this and bring ideas back to the next meeting.
9. Dean brought an example of a Popcorn Chicken Container to the Council to look at. Currently popcorn chicken is \$17.80 cs./17 serving. To add the containers to the case of product, the cost

will go to \$25.00 cs./25 serving. The Council liked the appearance of the containers, but decided not to add the containers or the cost to the popcorn chicken at this time.

10. Dean shared that there has been some questions raised at the Bureau about the use of commodity products in school home economic classes. He passed out a handout from the manual section 250.48; "Use of donated foods in home economics courses. School food authorities receiving donated foods under this part may use such foods for the purpose of training students in home economics, including college students if the same facilities and instructors are used for training both high school and college students in home economics courses." Dean pointed out that the key word in the manual is "may".
11. Dean wanted the Council to pay attention to the October Commodity Newsletter and note that item #1 dealt with questions of Irradiated Ground Beef. This is an issue that will continue to be looked at and that at this time there is no plan to purchase irradiated ground beef for the 2003-2004 school year.
12. Deliveries were discussed. Council members felt all were going well so far this year with no real issues. Dean commented that the Vendors were having a little harder time getting processed foods into the warehouses on time, because of the shorter turn-around time caused by the additional delivery.
13. Spring activities and meeting dates were discussed. It was decided that the next Council meeting will be February 27. April 16 was chosen for the Bid Tasting. Details will be forwarded later.
14. Commodity Daze: see Item 8.
15. Dean passed out to all Council members a number of articles and handouts on Irradiation. Members were asked to read and study these for a discussion at the February meeting. It was discussed for Dean to look into putting some questions and answers in the Lunchline. He will also look into putting a survey concerning this into the Lunchline with answers coming back in by mail or email.
16. Miscellaneous items – none presented.
17. Team Nutrition Workshop will be November 15. Topic will be "Let's get real about Nutrition" Workshop will be held in Marshalltown. Contact is Tracy Knebel at 712-255-6765.

Stephanie and Connie moved to adjourn at 1:52. All members approved.

Submitted by:

Denise Bridges

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